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HOLDS FIRST PRIZE OF KENTUCKY PRESS ASSOCIATION AS BEST EIGHT-PAGE WEEKLY IN KENTUCKY

# BIG SANDY NEWS.

Aut inveniam viam, aut faciam.

LOUISA, LAWRENCE COUNTY, KENTUCKY, FEBRUARY 2, 1917.

M. F. CONLEY, Publisher.

## BREAK WITH KAISER SEEMS CERTAIN

### UTHLESS SUBMARINE WARFARE STARTED YESTERDAY VIOLATES PROMISE TO U. S.

Washington, Jan. 31.—Germany has declared unrestricted submarine warfare.

A starvation blockade of England, the like of which the world never has seen, was announced to the world today in notes delivered to American Ambassador Gerard in Berlin and to the state department here by Count Von Bernstorff.

Thus begins the long feared campaign of ruthlessness, conceived by Von Hindenburg. It is said here, on a magnitude never even contemplated by Von Tirpitz.

Again the United States faces severance of diplomatic relations with Germany, with all its eventual possibilities. President Wilson's repeated warnings of "a world-at-risk" and Secretary Lansing's "verge of war" statements are being recalled in the capital tonight with feelings of apprehension and misgiving.

Germany's action is the super-crisis of all those that have stirred the American government in two and a half years of world war.

Talk of peace in Europe and means of preserving peace of the world have gone glimmering. President Wilson, incredulous at first when the unofficial text of Germany's warning was brought to him, at once called for the official document which had just been presented to Secretary Lansing by the German Ambassador. Mr. Lansing absolutely refused to make a comment. President Wilson began at once a careful study of the document.

The President has the task of deciding what shall be the course of the United States. Three immediate steps appear among the possibilities. The United States might solemnly warn Germany against a violation of her pledges; it might be decided that the German warning is sufficient notice of the blockade and determine the course of the United States as the actual operations develop.

On almost every side Germany's drastic action is interpreted as an open confession of the effectiveness of the British food blockade. It is regarded as a determination to strike back in kind. German officials in the United States estimate the food supply on the British Islands will last a month.

Admitted, the plan is to carry starvation to the doors of England with swift, staggering strokes, as a fulfillment of Germany's announced determination to use every weapon and agency at her command to end the war quickly. She counts on the operations of an unhindered number of submarines to deliver blows to bring England to her knees within sixty days. One German official here predicted today the war would be over in a month.

### KENTUCKIAN AWARDED CARNEGIE HERO MEDAL.

Pittsburgh, Jan. 25.—James S. Ashcraft, of Clayville, Ky., was yesterday awarded a bronze medal by the Carnegie Hero Fund Commission for his heroic rescue of three children from a runaway at Crittenden, Ky., August 7, 1913.

Three small girls, Mattie L. Alphin, 9, and 8 years old, and Thelma L. Alexander, 9, and 8 years old, respectively, were in a light wagon when their horse ran away. Ashcraft ran to meet the horse, which was running at top speed. He struck the frightened animal with a stick, causing it to veer into a fence. The children were thrown out, but only slightly injured. As Ashcraft struck the horse he was struck by the shaft of the wagon. He was knocked down, the wagon passing over his body.

The widow of Earl F. Munnell, who died attempting to save Arthur Walker from drowning at Spring Lake, Ky., July 1915, was given a medal and a pension. She lives in Cincinnati.

### THAT OLD VIRGINIA DEBT.

Washington, Jan. 28.—Virginia has decided to take further steps to hasten payment by West Virginia of the latter's share of the Old Dominion debt when the State divides in 1961.

The Supreme Court, which gave a decree against West Virginia in 1915, will be asked to-morrow, on behalf of Virginia, to issue process requiring West Virginia to pay the original judgment of \$12,393,000 with interest at 6 per cent. since July 1, 1915. This action was decided upon at conferences here to-day between Virginia commissioners appointed to consider the debt case and Attorney General Pollard of Virginia. Sanford Robinson, a New York attorney, representing the individual bondholders, also will appear in the proceedings.

As the West Virginia Legislature is now in session, it is understood that the time is opportune for action toward payment of the debt. Another legislative session will not be held for two years.

West Virginia officials have been considering measures, including a bond issue, to comply with the Supreme Court's decree. Virginia's new steps may result in reopening of the case, for extended supplementary proceedings, as it is understood that West Virginia will offer some new set-off to reduce the judgment.

### KENTUCKY'S SHARE OF FEDERAL ROAD MONEY.

Washington, Jan. 25.—Apportionment of \$10,000,000 to aid the States in the construction of rural post roads, the second annual distribution in accordance with the Federal aid road law, was announced to-day by Secretary Houston of the Department of Agriculture. The funds are the apportionment for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1918.

To meet the cost of administering the law, \$200,000 has been deducted, the remaining \$9,800,000 is divided as follows: Kentucky, \$194,943; West Virginia, \$106,540. In addition, \$1,000,000 will be apportioned for the development of roads and trails within or partly within the national forests. The law provides that \$15,000,000 shall be apportioned in the fiscal year of 1919; \$20,000,000 in 1920 and \$25,000,000 in 1921.

### WEST VIRGINIA'S NEW DRY LAW.

Charleston, W. Va., Jan. 31.—The provisions of the McAdoo-Harvey prohibition bill are as follows:

Provides penalties of fine of from \$100 to \$500 and sentence in jail of from sixty days to six months for person who knowingly abets in violation.

Fixes duty of mayors and chiefs of police in enforcing laws.

Makes it unlawful to carry more than one quart of intoxicants into the state, within a period of thirty days as personal baggage or otherwise.

For first offense fine of from \$100 to \$500 and from two to six months in jail.

Prohibits any carrier from knowingly permitting passengers to violate provisions of act.

Gives owner of property right to terminate lease on such property where liquor is handled in violation of the law.

Provides for revoking any kind of state license held by any person found guilty of violation of the act.

Provides penalty of from one to five years in penitentiary for second offense and allows trial judge no discretion in the matter.

The law automatically repeals all amendments to the Yost law.

### WERE MARRIED IN CALIFORNIA.

Says the Los Angeles Times: "A quiet home wedding took place at the home of Rev. Thomas E. Stevenson Monday. A romance of Kentucky, culminated in the Imperial Valley, when Eastell Wood, formerly of Ashland, son of Rev. and Mrs. Wood, of this city, and Miss Georgia Banks, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. S. A. Banks, C. O. engineer of Ashland, Ky., who recently came here from the Bluegrass country, were wed.

The officiating minister stated that it was one of the most transforming ceremonies he ever performed, as when the wedding lines were spoken, Miss Banks turned to Wood and Wood turned to Stone (W. L. Stone), and Mr. Stone turned again to Wood.

### Sale of Fine Farm Near Town of Louisa.

### SAM BARTRAM SELLS HIS FARM ON THE POINT TO J. P. GARTIN.

A real estate deal of considerable size took place last Friday when J. P. Gartin purchased from Sam W. Bartram the farm occupied by the latter, over on the "Point." The price was about \$11,000.00. This is a desirable farm of 100 acres, all level, with a good residence and all necessary outbuildings. It is desirably located.

Mr. Gartin is now giving his attention to the real estate business and bought the farm to sell again. He will probably divide it into small farms and truck places unless it is sold as a whole very soon.

Mr. Bartram has not decided where he will locate.

### AT CHURCH OF CHRIST.

Rev. John H. Stambaugh, a native son, will conduct a series of meetings beginning February 12, at 7 p. m. in the First Christian church of Louisa, Kentucky. Special song service by a trained singer.

One and all invited. Dr. Stambaugh is recognized as one of the leading evangelists of the Christian brotherhood. Come out and hear him. He will tell you some things for which the church of Christ stands.

The men have organized the front rank men's Bible class to be known as the Business Men's Class with Dr. F. A. Millard as president and Wait D. Riffe as secretary. John B. Riffe for teacher.

This class meets at 9:30 a. m. over the Christian church every Sunday morning. All young and old men are cordially invited, and especially those that do not attend any other Bible class. This class will arrange for a social session once a week, and place for holding same will be selected Sunday mornings.

### OIL COMPANY IS SOLD.

West Liberty, Ky., Jan. 27.—A group of oil men headed by S. R. Collier, of West Liberty, and G. L. Brown of Red Bank, N. J., have bought out the holdings of the Gray Eagle Oil and Gas company, the Maple Leaf Oil and Gas company, the Cannel City Oil and Gas company and the Elk Oil and Gas company, all of whom have been operating in Morgan county for some time. These four companies have leases on 17,000 acres of land in Morgan county.

### ROCKEFELLERS IN THE CONSOLIDATION COAL CO.

#### \$7,000,000 BONDS OWNED BY THEM HAS BEEN CONVERTED INTO STOCK.

Through the purchase of \$7,000,000 two-year convertible debenture bonds of the corporation, the Rockefeller interests are now the controlling factors in the Consolidation Coal company, according to the Wall Street Journal, which on Monday published a lengthy article on the entrance of the Rockefeller family in both the Western Maryland and the Consolidation Coal company's affairs.

The bonds were taken by the Rockefeller family two years ago, and they fall due next week, and the Consolidation's stockholders have just voted the increase in the authorized capital stock, which is necessary to cover this conversion.

"The money advanced by Mr. Rockefeller," says the Journal, "two years ago was used for several specific purposes. It furnished an opportunity in two years for the purchaser of these bonds to convert them into stock, which when accomplished, would increase the Rockefeller holdings of the Consolidation coal stock to about 50 per cent. of the total stock outstanding. When this conversion is accomplished next week John D. Rockefeller will be in undisputed stock control of the company."

"The funds also permitted the Consolidation to go ahead with further development of mines and undeveloped coal lands without which opportunity its business was bound to stagnate and without which it could not take full advantage of the big demand for soft coal brought about by the war requirements and unprecedented industrial activity. Then again, these funds were advanced on condition that all of the coal mined from the new mines which were to be developed by the expenditure of the new money was to be shipped over the Western Maryland railway. Secondly, with the prospect of all this new and profitable business from the Consolidation's new mines it was worth while to save the Western Maryland from a receivership, which was accordingly done and a friendly reorganization planned. Everything has come out about as planned. The new mines have been opened and are now about ready to produce to capacity. The Western Maryland has built new lines into these fields and is ready to transport any amount of the output and prepared itself to handle still more by the recent purchase of the new steel cars and heavy locomotives.

"Western Maryland's earnings have greatly increased, its property during the last year under the new management has been physically improved and the friendly reorganization plan promulgated. Last, but not least, John D. Rockefeller secured control of the Consolidation, already owning absolute control of the Western Maryland.

"There is no reason why this combination should not be profitable to both companies and also for John D. Rockefeller. The reorganization of the Western Maryland has placed the company financially on its feet and the reduction in fixed charges and other economies accomplished are calculated to keep the property on a sound financial footing."

The consummation of this change not only the vast enterprises in the Fairmont coal fields, but the big holdings of the company in the vast and but slightly developed Eastern Kentucky coal fields, in the Jenkins district. The Watson interests at Fairmont, organizers of the Consolidation company, will, it is understood, continue their holdings and associations under the new management.

The consummation of this change means, local business men say, larger credit, more flexible capital and more extended developments of new fields. The \$7,000,000, of 7 per cent. two-year, convertible debenture bonds of the Consolidation Coal Co., will be due on Thursday. The bonds were issued February 1, 1915, and are payable, both principal and interest, in the stock of the corporation on February 1, 1917. These bonds are all held by the Rockefeller interests and their conversion into stock will place in the hands of these interests about \$8,000,000 of the Consolidation Coal stocks. This alone will give them little less than one-fifth of the authorized capital of \$45,000,000, or full one-fifth, until all the stock recently authorized is issued, which the management says will not be done immediately. There is an impression that the Rockefeller's through their interest in the Western Maryland may have bought further into the stock of the Consolidation and that the \$5,000,000 they will receive this week may not represent their entire holdings. There was a report from New York that they might have over fifty per cent of the outstanding stock of the corporation. This, however, is doubted in the best informed quarters here, though there was no one who could give official denial to the statement. Stockholders of the Consolidation took action soon after the bond issue was authorized two years ago to increase the stock to meet it. Therefore, the increase made last week had no bearing on this deal.—Herald Dispatch.

### MINERS WITHOUT CURRENT; STATION OUT OF ORDER.

A breakdown of the power plant at Van Lear, has shut off electric power from a number of coal mines and Paintsville, Prestonsburg and other towns have been without current.

### UNPRECEDENTED ACTIVITY IN PETROLEUM FIELDS

#### WITH CRUDE OIL AT \$2.18 A BARREL DEVELOPMENTS EXPAND RAPIDLY.

Barbourville, Ky., Jan. 28.—Kentucky-Tennessee petroleum operators are setting a flying start in the 1917 drilling campaign, each week witnessing the advent of new operators, who are moving into all sections in the search for new producing territory. Close to 170 rigs are up and wells drilling in all the fields, notwithstanding that January is usually a month of inactivity because of weather conditions. Developments are now proceeding on a larger scale than ever before in the fifteen years' history of Kentucky-Tennessee fields.

Wells of large capacity continue to be the rule in the East Kentucky district, the most noteworthy shallow sand field yet developed in the country. Among late completions are two wells in the Pilot district, making an average of 100 barrels each. These wells follow closely the drilling of a 250-barrel gusher in the Pilot section, three weeks ago. This territory is strictly ahead of production and to take care of the output of wells a storage tank of large capacity is being erected. Other important strikes of the week include five in the Station Camp district proper, two being in the 100-barrel class, one making seventy-five barrels and others ranging down to twenty barrels. Five new strikes are reported from the Cowcreek-Ravenna district, the older development of the county. The pipe line through the Station Camp pool will handle only one-fifth of the production for the present.

Near Olympia, Bath county, a wildcat test showed up for a twenty-five barrel pumper. This is far in advance of tested territory. On Payne creek, Knox county, West Virginia operators have a ten-barrel pumper. This is a wildcat strike. In the Wayne county field one new well making ten barrels is reported, with a new strike of similar capacity in the Lawrence county field. In the smaller fields work is proceeding slowly because of the adverse weather.

A vast area of the old Knox county field is being drilled over. On Indian creek, midway between the Knox and Whitley developed area, local operators have a deep test down several hundred feet. At Himyar, twelve miles distant from this test, in Letcher, Knox county, West Virginia, operators are drilling a deep well. Several new wells are drilling in the old Richmond pool of Knox county. In Whitley county, adjoining, operators are attempting to extend the Williamsburg pool with several outlying tests.

Crude oil commands \$2.18 per barrel and this high price will be an incentive for the largest development campaign ever started in the Kentucky-Tennessee field. A large number of operators are deferring a beginning of drilling until the weather moderates, as the majority have territory in remote sections, where it is difficult at this season to take machinery.

### MAY NAME SCHOOL FOR MISS ENSLOW.

There has been suggested a plan to honor Miss Blanche Enslow, who was killed recently in an elevator mishap at the Huntington High School building, by giving her name, or that of her family, to one of the new school buildings now being erected. This plan will be considered, it is likely, at the February meeting of the board of education. It is understood that the building recommended for such a designation will likely be the big twenty-room Junior High School and grade building now in process of erection.

Some have suggested that one building be known as the Blanche Enslow building and others that it would be better, following out the tradition of the board, to call it the Enslow building, thus recognizing one of the families who were prominent in the pioneer life of the city.—Huntington-Herald Dispatch.

### TAKES NEW POSITION.

Basil Burgess, former county surveyor for Wayne-co., has been appointed chief engineer for the Huntington Development & Gas company, and has assumed his new duties. His term as county surveyor of Wayne-co., expired January 1. He moved recently to Huntington. His duties as chief engineer will be supplemented by work as assistant land agent, and his activities will carry him over the immense acreage the Huntington company owns in southern West Virginia, including thousands of acres of coal and oil land.—Herald.

### FARMERS FED BIRDS.

The heavy snow did not destroy the quail in Kentucky, according to reports received by J. O. Ward, executive agent for the Kentucky Game and Fish Commission. He said the department is indebted to many farmers who helped to feed the birds. The wardens did all they could, but were not able to cover the State.

### WILL START WORK.

Point Pleasant, W. Va., Jan. 25.—Representatives of the construction company from Evansville, Ind., to which the contract for building Ohio river lock and dam No. 25 near here has been awarded, arrived here today. Preparations for construction will be made without delay in order that work may be commenced as soon as the stage of water will permit.

### BOYS' AGRICULTURAL CLUBS FOR KENTUCKY.

Lexington, Ky., Jan. 26.—A proposal to merge all boys' organizations thru the State, which have been effective in the last few years in giving the boys on the farms a knowledge of scientific farming and stock raising, into one organization under the name of the Boys' Agricultural Clubs, was submitted by Prof. Otis Kircher, assistant State agent in care of the work, and was approved by Dr. Fred Mutchler, head of the extension work of the State, at to-day's meeting, the final session of the four-day convention of county agricultural agents here. All county agents, with one exception, were present at the meeting.

The plan of work adopted for the new club will consist of three specific things: Instruction and examination, agricultural practice, and records, cost accounting and history of crop or animal. Instruction of the various clubs will be permitted to follow any line of agricultural work they choose.

Final examinations will be given by the county agents and the papers graded. The animals to be raised will consist of one or more pigs, one or more calves and one or more lambs. A boy will be allowed to grow one or more of the following crops: One acre or more of corn, one-eighth acre or more of potatoes, one-half acre or more of any beans for seed, one-quarter acre or more of tobacco, and one-half acre or more of other crops.

State prizes will be awarded on the average grade of the members in instruction, agricultural practice and record work. A certificate of merit will be given to every member of the joint organization who completes his work with a grade of 70.

### LOSES BOTH FEET IN ACCIDENT.

Richard King, 25, of Wellston, Ohio, was taken to the Keller hospital in Ironton, where both his feet were amputated, as the result of a railway accident at Paintsville, Ky., on the C. & O. Ry.

Next morning at the hospital it was stated that his condition was regarded as favorable and that he had passed a good night and was doing well. He is unmarried and is said to have been hobnobbing his way home, when the accident occurred.

### MAGOFFIN COUNTY.

Miss Sylvia May of Salsersville, who has been for some time seriously ill in Colorado, was brought home Friday by her father, Des May. It is reported that she is improving.

Died, January 17, at his home near Salsersville, Mr. Prater Adams. Mr. Adams had been suffering for some time from tuberculosis and leaves a wife and small daughter, as well as his parents, sister and brother to mourn their loss. The bereaved family has our deepest sympathy.

Mrs. Ernest H. Atkinson, who has been to the hospital returned home Wednesday much improved in health.

### Bible Institute to Begin Here Feb. 12

#### BAPTISTS WILL HAVE PROMINENT SPEAKERS TO ADDRESS THE GATHERING.

The Rev. J. W. Porter, D. D. L. D., will be one of the principal speakers in the Bible Institute to be held at the Baptist church in Louisa, beginning February 12.

Dr. Porter is pastor of the First Baptist church of Lexington, Ky., which has a membership of more than sixteen hundred. He is also editor of the "Western Recorder," one of the oldest and best known denominational papers in the south.

Dr. Porter was educated in Cumberland University and the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. He has traveled extensively in the east, visiting the "Holy Land" and other places of interest. He is classical in appearance, is as intelligent as the most intellectual, and yet in his lectures is as humorous and pathetic as Bob Taylor. When he is in the pulpit preaching, as he believes, the great truths of God's word, he is as sincere as the great Surgeon. He will be the speaker the first day and night of the institute.

### COMMITTEE ON PUBLICITY.

#### FINE IS REVERSED.

In the Court of Appeals the Elkhorn Mining company secured a reversal of a fine of \$100 assessed in the Floyd Circuit Court on an indictment charging it with permitting the sale of liquor on premises owned by it in the town of Wayland. Contracts of lease for its houses stipulate that no liquor is to be sold on the premises, and there was no proof that liquor was sold in its houses or that it leased them with a knowledge that liquor would be sold. The court in an opinion by Judge Sampson said a verdict should have been directed for the company.

#### ANOTHER ONE FOR BREATHITT.

At Wilbur Wednesday night on the O. & K. train going to Cannel City, Laton Nickells was shot in or through the stomach, the shooting said to have been done by Andy Phillips. Nickells was taken to a Lexington hospital Thursday morning.

#### MEASLES CAUSE OF DEATH.

W. E. Hall, the sixteen-months-old child of Raymond Hall of Ashland died from the effects of measles. The remains were shipped to Johnson county for interment.

## FEDERAL FARM LOAN ASSOCIATION

### FOR LAWRENCE COUNTY WILL BE ASSISTED BY LOUISA NATIONAL BANK.

Lawrence county farmers who desire to borrow money from the new government Farm Loan bank should send their names and addresses to the Louisa National Bank, Louisa, Ky., together with the amount they desire to borrow, and a statement as to the land they will offer for security. Number of acres, location, and a conservative estimate of the value is desired.

The directors of the Louisa National Bank have decided to assist the farmers in this matter purely as an accommodation. There is no chance for any profit or any fees for this bank, but so many inquiries have come in as to how to proceed that the Louisa National has decided to take the lead in organizing the association required by the law.

Send in your names at once. The Farm Loan bank for this district has been located at Louisville and will be ready for business some time in this month or early in next. As soon as enough names and a total of \$20,000 applications for loans have been received a meeting will be called at Louisa and the necessary national farm loan association will be formed.

#### A Few Facts.

Farmers or those desiring to buy a farm may borrow from \$100 to \$10,000, secured by farm lands up to 50 per cent of the value appraised by committee, and 20 per cent of the permanent insured improvements on the farms. The money may be used to buy land, pay off mortgage, purchase live stock, or for any kind of productive improvements.

Loans may run anywhere from 5 to 40 years, at the option of the borrower. Interest will be from 5 to 6 per cent. Every borrower is required to buy \$5 stock in the association for each \$100 borrowed. This is returned to the farmer when the loan is paid, or may be used as the last payment on his debt.

A farmer may borrow \$1000, for instance, and by paying \$129.50 per year for 10 years the entire debt and interest is wiped out. If carried 20 years, \$50.24 per year will pay it out. This is what is now estimated to be the basis and it can never vary much from that.

All applicants for membership in the local association will receive notice of date of meeting, so they may attend and take part in the organization and get all the additional information they may desire.

The answer to the question most frequently asked is this: Loans will be made to the amount of half the value of your farm and one-fifth of the value of insurable improvements thereon.

M. F. CONLEY.

Cashier Louisa National Bank.

### FIRST EXCURSION FROM KENTUCKY.

The following is from the Vero, Florida Bulletin:

"To Ashland, Kentucky goes the honor of sending to Vero, the first regular excursion party that has reached here from the Bluegrass State, famed for its beautiful women and fine horses.

"In this party was Capt. C. W. Myers, wife and daughter, Miss Ferguson, Mrs. L. V. Hood and O. V. Gammon. The entire party enjoyed their week's visit at Vero so much that they are looking forward to the time when they can return. Capt. Myers has been a conductor on the Chesapeake & Ohio railroad for thirty-six years, but he thinks owning a grove or farm at Vero will be a fine thing for him in his declining years.

### WEATHER HALTS WORK IN IRVINE OIL FIELDS.

Irvine, Ky., Jan. 26.—The inclement weather of the week just passed has almost completely halted operations in the oil field. Until Tuesday of this week practically nothing had been done by the operators for nearly a week past. Every now and then reports of a well in this or that section, or a dry hole here or there, would be brought to Irvine by operators or oil field workers, but these were few and far between as compared with activities had the weather been more favorable.

Now that the skies have cleared up and the heavy rain of Sunday and Monday has cleared up the snow, operations in the fields are expected to become livelier. In fact, operators are predicting that more wells will be drilled in the next two months, weather conditions permitting, than in any two months since oil was struck here.

### HAS BOUGHT A STORE.

Andy New, Jr., of Torchlight, has purchased from N. R. Hatfield his store at Chattaroy, W. Va., and will move his family to that place. Mike Conley, of this city, who has been employed there for some time will continue his position with the new firm.

Mr. New has sold a half interest in his store at Torchlight to Joe Miller.

Robert Dixon is a partner in the store at Chattaroy.

### WAS A CONFEDERATE SOLDIER.

Our attention has been called by a friend to an interesting fact in the life of Hon. J. M. Riffe, who died at Yatesville last week. He was a Captain in the Confederate army and was captured and confined in the Camp Chase prison for fifteen months.